



Holly Springs Town Council

Town Council Meeting Agenda Cover Sheet

Agenda Item#: 17.

New Business

Title: Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance

Strategic Priority Area: Safe & Friendly

Staff Resource: John Schifano, Town Attorney

Action(s):

Adopt Ordinance 21-36 to Amend Section 12-61 of the Town Code governing dangerous animals

Explanation:

- The Animal Control office within the Police Department is evaluating the Town's Animal Control Ordinances, particularly with the definition of a 'dangerous dog' and a 'potentially dangerous dog' as well as confinement requirements for these dogs.
- These proposed changes create a definition of 'potentially dangerous dog' in line with general statutes and prohibit keeping of a dangerous dog. The amendment proposes changes in requirements for restraint as well as a requirement to obtain a license to keep a potentially dangerous dog.
- Proposed penalties have been established for failure to obtain a license (\$500); failure to use a muzzle (\$100); penalty if a potentially dangerous dog attacks or wounds a human or animal (\$500); penalty for keeping a dangerous dog in town limits (\$1,000).

Background:

- The Town's Animal Control program is a special services unit within the Town's Police Department.
- The program is charged with the responsibility of:
 - Enforcement relating to the care, custody and control of animals, and with regard to vaccination of animals against rabies, confinement or controlling of dangerous animals
 - Investigating cruelty or abuse with regards to animals
 - Canvassing of the town for the purpose of ascertaining that all animals are vaccinated against rabies
 - Operating, pursuant to policies of the county's animal shelter
- These recommended updates are consistent with neighboring municipalities.

Funding Source(s):

N/A

Attachment(s):

1. Amended Animal Control Ordinance